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A hopeful future Cuba's luxury marine industry

At the Miami boat show in February industry colleagues and media enjoyed a glimpse into Cuba's maritime past, present and a hopeful future. The International Superyacht Society and the International SeaKeepers Society hosted speaker Commodore Jose Miguel Diaz Escrich of Marina Hemingway in Havana, Cuba. Diaz Escrich, a "goodwill ambassador" for boating in Cuba, has been instrumental in restoring some of the island's brilliant boating past. While in the 1950s renowned Americans were staples in and around Havana, including writer and avid sport fisherman Ernest Hemingway, Cuba's thriving recreational boating industry came to a grinding halt in 1960 when all nautical clubs were closed. The Commodore's vision to restore Cuba's recreational boating to some of its former glory led him to consult on nautical tourism and recommend a new yacht club. Marina Hemingway debuted in 1992 with 28 members from 10 countries and grew to its current membership of over 1,600 members from 45 countries, including Monaco. Diaz Escrich continues his work on behalf of recreational boating in Cuba and is actively seeking to expand regattas and tournaments that he hopes will someday soon include the U.S. "Tournaments will not be complete without America," said Escrich through an interpreter. To that end, his Miami visit included meetings with several game fishing association presidents and organizers. In hopeful anticipation of future U.S. boating expansion, many Cuban marinas, including Hemingway Marina are adding slips and services. For boaters concerned with environmental impact, Escrich says Cuban Law 81 is already in place to protect the country's aquatic resources. Says Escrich, "Be a friend of the sea and we will have a sea of friends." Cuba is less than 90 nm from Key West, Fla., and many in the South Florida boating industry see the eventual opening of the island, currently off the charts for all American citizens, to the recreational boating industry as a desirable goal. FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT CUBASEAS.COM



Sanlorenzo's new flagship
144' steel hull

Sanlorenzo spa has released renderings of its new flagship. The displacement trideck yacht, under the 500-GT-threshold, will have a steel hull and aluminum superstructure. The styling recalls the spirit of another of Sanlorenzo's lines, the so-called "navettas", semi-displacement vessels built in composite, including the SD92 (introduced for the first time in Fort Lauderdale last fall) and the SD122. But this is a far different yacht, with a beach club and an under-lower deck that features a practical tunnel to access all service areas, including laundry room, cold-storage rooms, bow thruster and other systems. Two 2,040-mhp Caterpillar 3512B diesel engines will give the yacht a top speed of 17 knots and a range of about 4,000 nm at 12 knots. Sanlorenzo currently has two shipyards, both in Italy building composite, aluminum and now steel yachts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT SANLORENZOYACHT.COM



Nordhavn adds to its fleet
76' Eliana and new 78-footer

the latest 76' expedition yacht that Nordhavn has built was due to launch in April. The 76' *Eliana* may have "salty looks" favored by fans of trawler-style vessels but it also features a contemporary design by Ardeo Design, using African cherry and wenge, combined with modern woven textures, glass and metal tiles. The yacht features a full-beam master suite, located forward on the main deck. Nordhavn also has announced plans for the Nordhavn 78, a long-range, contemporary-styled yacht with separate crew quarters, affording privacy to the owners and their guests. Like the entire Nordhavn product range (with the exception of the flagship currently building, the N120), the N78 can be operated without a captain but leaves the option open for a crew, with private access in the transom. The new N78 is designed to have a 3,000+- mile range and superior fuel efficiency. The interior will feature an updated design aesthetic that includes spacious owners' accommodations and two superb guest rooms all with ensuite heads. Nordhavn now proposes three models in its 70' range: the N72, 75 EYF (an expedition-style fishing yacht), the N76 and now the 78. FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT NORDHAVN.COM